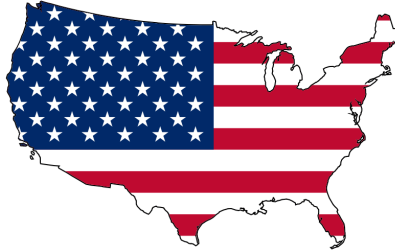


United States Embassy Macedonia

Presents Newsletter *C O L L A G E*



Global articles for your interest
Issue 23
December 17 - December 31, 2010

Contents:

1. [US Senate Ratifies New START Treaty](#)

The U.S. Senate ratifies the New START arms reduction treaty between the United States and Russia, which would effectively reduce each nation's nuclear arsenals to their lowest levels in more than a half century. ...

2. [Giving \(Almost\) All of It Away](#)

Bill and Melinda Gates and Warren Buffett are leading a campaign to convince other American billionaires to donate the bulk of their fortunes to philanthropy. They also are opening dialogues with China's and India's business leaders about the value of philanthropy. ...

3. [Foreign Language Teachers Open Door on World to U.S. Students](#)

Washington — English-language teachers from 49 countries are spending a year in communities throughout the United States, not only to hone their knowledge of the English language and American life, but also to encourage American students to study foreign languages and culture. ...

4. [Clinton Offers Plan to Increase State, USAID Effectiveness](#)

Secretary Hillary Rodham Clinton announces the State Department's first Quadrennial Diplomacy and Development Review, which is designed to improve the effectiveness of U.S. diplomatic and development efforts through bureaucratic reorganization and improved interagency coordination. ...

5. [2010 Census Data Show Population Shift to South, West Continues](#)

The U.S. population continues its 70-year trend of shifting away from Northeastern and Midwestern states to the South and the West, according to the results of the 2010 census. The data will be used to determine how the 435 seats in the U.S. House of Representatives are apportioned. ...

6. [Volunteering Around the World from the Comfort of Home](#)

Every year, more than 9,000 online volunteers help nonprofits through the UNV Online Volunteering service. "Online volunteering has great potential, and I encourage all partners to explore what more can be done to harness the power of the internet this way," said U.N. Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon. ...

In case you missed it:

U.S. Embassy Macedonia [Facebook](#) page

U.S. Embassy Macedonia [Youtube channel](#) 



Ambassador Reeker and the Embassy Marines join Santa and the children at the SOS Children's Home. (LP)

Embassy Marines and Ambassador Reeker Share Gifts at SOS Children's Home

January 5, 2011

Ambassador Reeker joined the Embassy Marines and Santa for delivery of gifts to the children at the SOS Children's Home in Cento. Every year, the U.S. Marines, wherever they serve around the world, gather gifts through the Toys for Tots program for less fortunate children so they may experience the joy of Christmas. Toys for Tots is a program

run by the United States Marine Corps Reserve and was founded in 1947 by Marine reservist Major William L. Hendricks.

◇ **Video:** To see more photos from the event please [click here](#).



Ambassador Reeker speaks to Kapital.

Looking Forward to 2011 with Kapital

Ambassador Reeker: "The United States will continue to wish all the people of Macedonia well. You have faced many hurdles in your twenty years of independence, through your own courage and determination, and with the help of friends. You have overcome some profound issues since the conflict in 2001. Still, major challenges remain to build a democracy in which all citizens feel fully included and protected, regardless of ethnicity or political party affiliation."

◇ To see a transcript of the interview, please [click here](#).

◇ To see the article as printed, please [click here](#).



Ambassador [Philip T. Reeker](#)

[Ambassador Reeker in Alsat TV talk show “Na zdravje sisanje”](#)

U.S. Ambassador Philip Reeker met for an interview with Saso Ordanoski, host of the Alsat TV talk show, “Na zdravje sisanje”. The interview aired December 26, 2010.

- ◇ **To see a transcript of the interview, please** [click here](#).
- ◇ **Video: To view the interview, please** [click here](#).



Ambassador [Philip T. Reeker](#)
(BBC Image)

[Ambassador Philip T. Reeker’s interview with BBC](#)

December 24, 2010

Ambassador Reeker: "The U.S. absolutely supports Macedonia’s Euro-Atlantic perspective. This was a goal, a request, a desire of all the people of Macedonia and a series of Macedonian governments. We have done our part to help Macedonia meet the goals to be qualified for NATO. In fact, that success was reaffirmed again this year at the Lisbon summit. We will continue to support Macedonia in those efforts."

- ◇ **To see a transcript of the interview, please** [click here](#).
- ◇ **To see the article published on [BBCMacedonian.com](#), please** [click here](#).



Ambassador Reeker and pianist
Simon Trpceski at the podium. (LP)

A Reception in Honor of Simon Trpceski

December 20, 2010

Ambassador and Solveig Reeker hosted a reception in the Embassy Atrium the evening of Monday, December 20, in honor of Simon Trpceski’s recent triumphant concert at Carnegie Hall in New York City. The Ambassador focused on Trpceski’s accomplishments as one of Macedonia’s greatest musicians and, using the example set by American philanthropist Andrew Carnegie, encouraged his holiday audience to keep in mind “the importance of giving back to the communities that helped us get where we are.”

- ◇ **Video: See the local media coverage of this Event.** ([A1 TV](#) - WMV file, size 6.57MB | [ALSAT-M TV](#) - WMV file, size 25.6 MB)



New Year's Greeting from the Ambassador

Ambassador Reeker: "My wife Solveig and I want to wish all of our friends around Macedonia a healthy and happy new year. The end of 2010 provides each of us with the opportunity to reflect on the achievements of the past year, and to look forward to new challenges in 2011. As President Obama's representative to the Republic of Macedonia I have had a terrific year and enjoyed the chance to travel throughout this fascinating country and meet so

Ambassador [Philip T. Reeker](#)

many citizens of Macedonia. At the U.S. Embassy, we have worked to strengthen our bilateral relationship and civil society here. We opened and renovated schools including renovation of the 100th school with assistance from USAID. We provided grants for the restoration and preservation of Macedonian cultural monuments and architectural treasures. We supported numerous projects to build a stronger civil society, a more vibrant business community, enhance rule of law, and encourage greater interethnic cooperation. We celebrated accomplishment in music, sport, and the arts. And of course, U.S. and Macedonian troops served together again as soldiers from Macedonia deployed with the Vermont National Guard in Afghanistan to support our common security interests.

2011 brings us all new opportunities and the United States, as in years past, will continue to extend the hand of friendship and partnership to the Republic of Macedonia, to help when and where we can. So again, on behalf of all my colleagues at the U.S. Embassy, Solveig and I wish you all a healthy, happy and successful new year. Srekna nova godina and Gëzuar Vitin e Ri!"

For All Embassy News go to: <http://macedonia.usembassy.gov>

Small Grants information: http://macedonia.usembassy.gov/small_grants_program.html

American Educational Exchange information: <http://macedonia.usembassy.gov/aec.html>

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